REMARKS

By the above amendment, claims 3, 7, 10, 12, 13, and 14 have been amended to delete multiple claim dependency, and no estoppel should be deemed to be associated with this amendment.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted, Susumu MUTO et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

reme Reglo 33,329

Reg. No. 29,027

December 6, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191